GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3893
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2017
Improving Literacy Rate
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Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is considering to outline a detailed road map for improving the literacy rate of the minorities in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether recommendations have been suggested by any panel and if so, the response of the Government regarding the same; and

(c) the strategies devised/being devised by the Government to implement the recommendations and the timeline for it?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)

(a) to (c): At present, the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MoHRD) and Ministry of Minority Affairs (MoMA) are implementing a number of schemes for educational empowerment of six (06) notified minority communities viz. Muslim, Christian, Sikh, Buddhist, Jains and Parsis, which are as under:

A. Schemes implemented by MoHRD
(a) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)- with components for creation of educational infrastructure in Minority Concentration Districts (MCD). such as Primary/Upper Primary Schools, Additional Classrooms, Kasturba Gandhi BalikaVidyalayas, Number of Posts of Teachers for teaching Urdu, etc.
(b) Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madrasa.
(c) Infrastructure Development of Minority Institutes.
B. Schemes implemented by MoMA
(i) Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme;
(ii) Post-matric Scholarship Scheme;
(iii) Merit-cum-Mean based Scholarship Scheme;
(iv) Maulana Azad National Fellowship;
(v) Free Coaching & Allied Scheme;
(vi) Support to minority candidates clearing Prelims conducted by UPSC/SSC, State Public Service Commission (PSC) etc.; and
(vii) PadhoPardesh- Interest Subsidy on Educational Loans for overseas studies.
(viii) Scholarship Scheme for meritorious minority girls students by Maulana Azad Education Foundation.
(ix) Besides, Infrastructure Development efforts are also being taken under the following two schemes for improving literacy in general:
a. Grants-in-Aid Scheme for Infrastructure Development of Educational Institutions under the Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF)
b. Multi Sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) of MoMA.

Details of these schemes and achievements made there under are available on the Ministry's website www.minorityaffairs.gov.in.

The Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF) is a Society, working under the aegis of the Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India. MAEF, in its 52nd meeting held on 29.12.2016, constituted a Committee to go into the modalities for establishment of institutions in different parts of the country with a view to facilitate educational development of the minorities. This Committee recognized the fact that school education is the most important for the deprived children of minority communities, and there is an urgent need to ensure that these children have access to quality primary, secondary and higher secondary education. The Committee also noted the fact that the majority of these minority children drop out or fail to clear the matriculation examination or have been unable to continue with further studies. These children, thus, needed to be appropriately brought back into the education system through the institution of community colleges to be administered by the MAEF.

The said committee has submitted its report on 06.07.2017 to the General Body of MAEF, which has adopted the said report. The Committee in its report has recommended for a three tier model of educational institutions for minorities having:

? 211 Central Schools at the bottom;

? 25 Community Colleges at the middle; and

? 5 National Institutes at the top level- for (a) Science & Technology; (b) Health & Allied Sciences; (c) Architecture Planning & Design; (d) Climate Change & Disaster Management; and (e) Renewable Energy & Food Security under the MAEF with sufficient autonomy to each institute.

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